

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier listings and all earlier versions.

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1. (Currently Amended) An image output apparatus comprising:
- an image generator adapted to generate image generating means for
generating image data based upon input data transmitted from an information processing
apparatus; and
- a controller adapted to receive and control control means for
receiving and controlling output of the image data that has been generated by said image
generator generating means; and
- an image forming unit adapted to record an image on a recording
medium based upon the image data inputted from said controller.
- wherein said controller control means detects occurrence of an error
in said image generator generating means and, when an error has been detected, issues to
said image generator generating means an order to execute initialization or to restart.
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said image generator generating means detects the occurrence of a fatal error and so
notifies said controller control means, whereby said controller control means detects the
occurrence of an error in said image generator generating means.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said controller ~~control means~~ judges that an error has occurred in said image generator ~~generating means~~ if an instruction that has been transmitted to said image generator ~~generating means~~ is not responded to in a predetermined period of time.

Q1 4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said controller ~~control means~~, which has detected the occurrence of an error in said image generator ~~generating means~~, halts communication with said image generator ~~generating means~~ and notifies an operator of occurrence of the error by a display or sound before the order to execute initialization is issued to said image generator ~~generating means~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a converter ~~conversion means~~ for reading in an image and converting the image to image data.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a unit ~~means~~ for sending and receiving image data via a communication line.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an input ~~means~~ unit for allowing an operator to perform an input[[;]],

wherein when an order to reset to recover from an error is input by said input unit ~~means~~ in response to occurrence of the error, said controller ~~control means~~ issues said image generator ~~generating means~~ an order to execute initialization.

8.-16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the input data transmitted from the information processing apparatus includes data in a page description language, and wherein said image generator generates bit map data as the image data based upon the data in the page description language.

18. (New) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a display unit adapted to display a screen image on which a user inputs an instruction, wherein said controller issues said image generator the order to execute initialization or to restart in response to an instruction to initialize or to restart said image generator with said display unit.

19. (New) The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said image generator transmits a display request for said display unit to said controller in response to an error occurred in said image generator and said controller controls displaying the screen image by said display unit in response to the display request transmitted from said image generator.

20. (New) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said controller halts a communication with said image generator in response to the display request transmitted from said image generator.

21. (New) An image output method comprising:

an image generating step, of generating image data based upon input data transmitted from an information processing apparatus;

a controlling step, of receiving and controlling output of the image data that has been generated in said image generating step ; and

an image forming step, of recording an image on a recording medium based upon the image data inputted in said controlling step,

wherein an error in said image generating step is detected in said controlling step and, when an error has been detected, an order to execute initialization or restart said image generation step is issued in said controlling step.

22. (New) A computer program product including a program recorded in a recording medium, said program comprising:

codes of an image generating step, of generating image data based upon input data transmitted from an information processing apparatus;

codes of a controlling step, of receiving and controlling output of the image data that has been generated in said image generating step; and

codes of an image forming step, of recording an image on a recording medium based upon the image data inputted in said controlling step,

wherein an error in said image generating step is detected in said controlling step and, when an error has been detected, an order to execute initialization or restart said image generation step is issued in said controlling step.